



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AM: DB10324-0884

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 CIAE-00 EA-10 ICA-11
DODE-00 H-01 NEA-06 NSC-05 NSAE-00 HA-06 PH-09
PA-01 SHS-01 SP-02 SPRS-02 /092 W
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P 110913Z JUL 81
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4819
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL Leningrad
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
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BRUSSELS FOR USEC
E.O. 12065: GDS 7/11/87 (MCCALL, SHERROD) OR-M
TAGS: PEPR, UR, EEC, AF
SUBJECT: GRONYKO ON EC INITIATIVE ON AFGHANISTAN

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. THE SOVIETS HAVE USED THE DEVICE OF A MEETING
BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTER GRONYKO AND AFGHAN
AMBASSADOR HABIB MANGAL TO PUT AUTHORITATIVELY ON
THE PUBLIC RECORD THEIR VIEW THAT THE EC INITIATIVE
ON AFGHANISTAN IS "UNREALISTIC" AND "UNACCEPTABLE."
UNLIKE THEIR MUTED RESPONSE TO THE ORIGINAL GISCARD
INITIATIVE, THE SOVIETS APPARENTLY HAVE CONCLUDED
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THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO MEET THE EC INITIATIVE HEAD-ON

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19.

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AND AT AN AUTHORITATIVE LEVEL. THE JULY 11 PRYDA REPORT OF GROMYKO'S COMMENTS, HOWEVER, DOES NOT MENTION SPECIFICALLY EITHER THE EC OR LORD CARRINGTON.

3. GROMYKO'S STATEMENT CONTINUES TO AVOID THE SUBSTANCE OF THE EC PROPOSAL. HE IS QUOTED ONLY AS HAVING SAID THAT THE PROPOSAL "DOES NOT RESPOND TO THE TASK OF A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF THE SITUATION WHICH HAS DEVELOPED AROUND AFGHANISTAN IF ONLY BECAUSE IT WILL EXAMINE QUESTIONS CONCERNING AFGHANISTAN WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT." HE DOES NOT ECHO LESS AUTHORITATIVE TASS REPORTS THAT HAD SUGGESTED THAT THE OTHER PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE WOULD STACK THE MEETING AGAINST THE SOVIETS.

4. THE STATEMENT CONFIRMS ONCE AGAIN AT AN AUTHORITATIVE LEVEL THAT THE SOVIETS ARE STICKING RIGIDLY TO THE MAY 14 PROPOSALS WITH ITS LATER MODIFICATIONS. GROMYKO CALLS THE MAY 14 PROPOSALS WITH BREZHNEV'S COMMENT AT THE XXVI CPSU CONGRESS A "CONSTRUCTIVE BASE" FOR A SETTLEMENT. HE DOES NOT MENTION THE BREZHNEV COMMENTS AT TBILISI, WHICH PRESUMABLY THE SOVIETS SEE MERELY AS A MINOR VARIANT OF THE XXVI CPSU CONGRESS LINE.

5. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED FOR KABUL. MATLOCK

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